January Newsletter Info

Members Meeting

Get ready for some great CGSA events planned for **2005** beginning with our next membership meeting on Wednesday, January 12th at the home of Veronica Whitehead. Mark your calendars and we'll see you there!

Teen Holiday Ice Skating

Mahalo to all of our wonderful volunteers for ensuring our 2nd Annual Teen Ice Skating Party was a success! Fifty teen skaters as well as many of our dedicated chaperones enjoyed several hours of skating as well as good food, drink and company. Many thanks to the Hawaiian Islands CPOA for donating and preparing the hot dogs and chips, as well as chaperoning. I would also like to acknowledge the following folks for lending a hand with table service and supervision: Tammy Minter, Sharon and Greg Busch, Kerri Luera, Shelly and Mark Reyes, James Sharp, Clarice and Tim Glover, Melinda Burns, Janene Gardner, Jim Heard, Gary Messmer, Alice and Mark Piontek, and Andy Ulsh.

Happy Holidays, Lori Ulsh

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will be on Thursday January 27th at Pho' Nam Vietnamese restaurant. It is located at 725 Kapiolani Blvd on the corner of Cooke and Kawajahao St.

Book Club

For the New Year, we resolved to read at least one self-help book for the January meeting. From a number of interesting books, we decided to learn hopefully and finally how to get organized. The book is called GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER by the "Slob Sisters" Pam Young and Peggy Jones. It bills itself as a 7-day get-organized program for the overworked, overbooked, and overwhelmed. Now who does that not apply to in this day and age? So get yourself a copy and come hear what everyone is doing to get organized for 2005!!! See you on January 17 at 7 p.m. at DesaRae Janzen's home at 11287 Eagle Circle, 833-1740.

Hike Club

The hiking club's next hike will be January 21st. The place and time will be forth coming in an e-mail. If you would like to come but are not on the hike club email list just contact Donna Genco at 262-6999 or donnagenco@earthlink.net to get future updates.

Gourmet Club

The club will meet at Mary-Clair Rinoski's house at 2007 Point Welcome to taste soup and salad.

The <u>Children's Holiday Party</u> was quite a success. We had 133 children signed up, and 115 attended. There were games, face painting, crafts, coloring, Gingerbread House making and Santa too. Everyone was in a good mood and hopefully had a good time. <u>It is not everyday that I get say "Thank You" to such a wonderful group of people.</u>

The way each of you joined in to help is **MAGNIFICIENT**.

You are all a wonderful example of <u>Team work</u> and <u>Coast Guard Family</u>. This party would not have been a success without you.

Once again THANK YOU. Veronica Whitehead

Fisher House

Aloha, and mahalo to everyone who donated their time and talents for our yummy December meal! Our fabulous cooks were as follows: Lisa Keffer, Peg Hamacher, Kim Rendon, Susan Heard, and Susan Messmer.

Our January meal will be delivered on Friday, the 21st. Our volunteer cooks are as follows: **Bread:** Susan Messmer, **Main Course:** Jill Smialek, **Cooked Salad/Baked Vegetable:** Amy Heaton, **Cooked Vegetable:** Linda Wilson, **Dessert:** Lisa Keffer. Thank you in advance, ladies for you talents, time, and energy! We were blessed recently with many volunteer cooks to help with our meals through the months of April. We still are in need of cooks for the months that follow April. If you are interested in helping with those meals, or any Fisher House meal, please feel free to contact us.

Our Christmas stocking and gift donations were a HUGE success! We received \$500 in monetary donations...plus the many other great gifts and goodies that were donated to fill the stockings! We were absolutely dumbfounded by the support you ladies showed us. We were able to stuff our stockings FULL with great gifts for the 11 families staying at Fisher House. And, as many of you know, we found out at the last minute that there were an extra two children staying at Fisher House for the holidays. Luckily, we had many donations, so we were able to provide all four children with great gifts. We provided a 3-year-old boy with a \$75 gift certificate to Toys R Us. Also, we were able to give both teenage girls (who were staying at Fisher House while their twenty-something older brother receives chemotherapy) a \$75 gift certificate to Pearlridge Mall. Lastly, we provided a \$75 NEX gift certificate for a premature 3-month-old boy who is spending his Christmas in and out of the hospital for treatment. We also gave

his family \$100 in diapers and formula, and a huge bag of clothes. This family was in dire financial straits, and we were so lucky to provide them with these things that will make their lives easier in the coming months.

Thus, we have a very **loooong** list of generous CGSA ladies who have donated items and money for our stuffed Christmas stockings and children's gifts for the Fisher House guests. We are so grateful for the generosity and kindness these ladies have shown. Big Mahalos to: Melissa Brogan, George Ann Wurster, Kim Rendon, Aimee Baker, Lisa Keffer, Cathy Benz, Susan Heard, Takako Dolan, Peg Hamacher, Amy Heaton, Susan Messmer, Beth Meade, Theresa Framer, Tracie DeVoe, Margaret Kjeldgaard, and Sara Isherwood (we apologize if we left anybody out of this big list of generous donators...we had a heck of a time keeping up on the donations that poured in!). HUGE mahalos to Cathy Benz, Julianna Mathers, and Marcy Rice for stepping up to the plate and donating the \$170 total for our needy family and our last minute "extra children". Also, a special mahalo goes out to Cory Hightower, Veronica Whitehead, and Susan Heard, who designed and stitched up some absolutely adorable stockings for us to stuff! We truly are astounded by the generosity that you all have shown, and we cannot thank all of you enough for the fantastic support you have shown us through this project.

Stockings and gifts were delivered on December 22nd to the acting manager of Fisher House. Her plan was to deliver the stockings to each family's door Christmas Eve night...so they would wake up to a great surprise. We will relay any information we receive from her regarding our gifts to all of you in the next newsletter.

In closing, if any of you would like to help with any of our monthly Fisher House meals, please feel free to call us, Marci Curtis or Destiny Fitzgerald, at 834-7997 (Marci) or 834-8785 (Destiny). You can also e-mail us at Paul4marci@aol.com, or destiny@hawaii.rr.com. We would love to hear from you!

Mahalo again to all of the wonderful Coast Guard Spouses that have helped brighten the lives of those staying at Fisher House!

Much Aloha,

Marci Curtis and Destiny Fitzgerald

CGSA 2004-2005 Scholarship Program

Congratulations goes to the winner of the 2004-05 CGSA scholarship program, **Laura Brashier**.

Bunko For Breast Cancer

Coming in February will be a bunko night dedicated to breast cancer. It will be held at the Red Hill Community Center and only a \$10 donation and a pupu or dessert is need to play. A fun time for a good cause!

Thanks, Amy Heaton

Volunteers Needed

The PGA Tour Sony Open needs volunteers to help with parking at the Waialae Country Club January 10th—16th. You receive a hat, shirt and free week long pass to the tournament. You will also have the opportunity to play in a golf tournament. This is to support Friends of Hawaii Charities. For more information contact Ty or Mary-Claire at trinoski@earthlink.net or call 833-1838 or 295-1021.

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